

NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
318 South Sixth Street
Springfield, IL 62701
Tel: 217/492-4450

RODGER A. HEATON
U.S. ATTORNEY
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS



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Contact: Gregory M. Gilmore
Patrick J. Chesley
Assistant U.S. Attorneys
(217) 492-4450

Former Night Janitor Pleads Guilty to Fraud Scheme

Springfield, IL – Another former employee of the Illinois Secretary of State's Office's Physical Services Division pled guilty today to his part in a scheme that allowed him and two other night janitors to receive their full pay while working only a fraction of their full-time hours. Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that Dana Dinora, 53, of 1500 South Fourth Street, Springfield, pled guilty to four counts of wire fraud during a hearing this afternoon before U.S. District Judge Joe Billy McDade in Peoria. Sentencing has been scheduled for December 21, 2006. Dinora remains on bond pending sentencing.

Two other defendants charged in the scheme, David Medvesek, 57, of Springfield, and Steven Boyce, 58, of Chatham, Illinois, each pled guilty to four counts of wire fraud on August 24, 2006, also before Judge McDade in Peoria. Both are scheduled to be sentenced on December 21, 2006. The offense of wire fraud carries a maximum statutory penalty of 20 years in prison.

The investigation was conducted by the Inspector General for the Illinois Secretary of State and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Gregory M. Gilmore and Patrick J. Chesley.

Dinora, Medvesek and Boyce were employed full-time in the Illinois Secretary of State's Physical Services Division to provide janitorial services at state office buildings in Springfield, Illinois, including the Herndon Building and the Court of Claims Building.

During today's hearing, Dinora admitted that beginning in 1999 and continuing until August 2005, he was involved in a scheme to arrive late for work or to leave work without taking approved leave. As a result of the scheme, Dinora, Medvesek, and Boyce received their full salaries despite working only a fraction of their official duty hours.

Dinora further admitted that he, Medvesek, and Boyce attempted to conceal the fact that they were not at work when they were supposed to be, developing various methods to cover themselves and each other's unauthorized absences from work. This included leaving notes in the janitors' area of one building purporting they were at another site. One such note was prepared by Dinora and was stored in a drawer for repeated use.

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As the scheme progressed, the number of official duty hours the night janitors were supposed to work remained the same, but the number of hours they actually worked decreased. By 2004 and continuing until August 2005, Dinora admitted he was working virtually none of the hours he was supposed to work. As a result of the scheme, the state of Illinois paid the janitors between \$120,000 and \$200,000 to which they were not entitled.

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